

271253Z Mar 02

UNCLASSIFIED PTO6338

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ACTION INR-00

INFO	LOG-00	NP-00	AF-00	A-00	ACQ-00	CIAE-00	USNW-00
	DODE-00	DS-00	EUR-00	UTED-00	VC-00	TEDE-00	LAB-01
	VCE-00	NSAE-00	TEST-00	USIE-00	EPAE-00	IIP-00	DSCC-00
	DRL-02	NFAT-00	SAS-00	/003W			

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FM AMEMBASSY HARARE  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1334

INFO NSC WASHDC

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA  
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA  
AMEMBASSY WINDHOEK  
AMEMBASSY GABORONE  
AMEMBASSY LILONGWE  
AMEMBASSY LONDON

UNCLAS HARARE 000802

SIPDIS

AF/PD FOR COX AND ROBERTSON, AF/S FOR KRAFT AND  
SCHLACHTER, AF/RA FOR SWANN, INR/R/MR, NSC FOR JENDAYI  
FRAZER

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: ZI PREL PHUM

SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION U. S. UNDER FIRE; HARARE

11. UNDER HEADLINE "PRESIDENT MUGABE IS OUR CHOICE,"  
THE BULAWAYO-BASED GOVERNMENT-CONTROLLED DAILY  
"CHRONICLE" DEDICATED ITS MARCH 27 EDITORIAL TO  
DENOUNCING THE UNITED STATES OVER ITS STANCE ON  
ZIMBABWE'S PRESIDENTIAL POLL. EXCERPTS:

12. "THE AMERICANS AND THEIR FRIENDS ELSEWHERE SEEM  
NOT TO HAVE GOT THE MESSAGE FROM THE PEOPLE OF  
ZIMBABWE, THAT PRESIDENT MUGABE IS OUR CHOICE AND HE  
WILL LEAD THIS COUNTRY FOR THE NEXT SIX YEARS, COME  
RAIN OR SUNSHINE. IN THEIR TYPICAL BULLISH STYLE, THE  
AMERICANS THINK THAT THEY CAN USE AID AS A WHIP TO  
TURN AFRICANS AGAINST EACH OTHER. WE ARE GLAD THAT  
SUCH EFFORTS, AS EXHIBITED BY THE U.S. YESTERDAY IN  
NIGERIA, HAVE BEEN DISMISSED FOR THE HOT AIR THAT THEY  
ARE. AND WE ARE CONVINCED THAT THEY WILL REMAIN PART  
OF THE AMERICANS' WISHFUL THINKING. WE APPLAUD THE  
SPECIAL ECONOMIC ADVISOR TO SOUTH AFRICAN PRESIDENT  
THABO MBEKI FOR TAKING EXCEPTION TO THE U.S. POSITION  
THAT THE CONTINENT'S ENDORSEMENT OF PRESIDENT MUGABE'S  
RE-ELECTION THREATENED WESTERN SUPPORT FOR THE NEW  
PARTNERSHIP FOR AFRICA'S DEVELOPMENT (NEPAD). THE  
AMERICANS HAVE IN THE PAST DEMONSTRATED THEIR LACK OF  
DEMOCRACY BY RESORTING TO THE COURTS TO DECIDE WHO  
WILL LEAD THEM WHEN THE OPTION OF AN ELECTION RE-RUN  
WAS CLEAR. NOW THEY WANT TO PREACH DEMOCRACY TO US  
WHEN WE JUST HELD FREE AND FAIR ELECTIONS IN WHICH  
THEIR CANDIDATE, MR. MORGAN TSVANGIRAI, WAS TROUNCED.  
WE ADVISE THE AMERICANS TO WITHHOLD THEIR MONEY IF IT  
WILL BE USED TO DESTROY DEMOCRACY AND CREATE A  
DEPENDENCY ON DONOR FUNDS. IF THE IDEA OF NEPAD IS TO  
PERPETUATE THE MYTH THAT INVESTORS WILL NOT COME  
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UNLESS WE SUBMIT TO DENIGRATION, WE UNEQUIVOCALLY TELL  
THE AMERICANS TO LOOK ELSEWHERE BECAUSE WE DO NOT NEED  
DIRTY MONEY."

SULLIVAN

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